

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the development of a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plan for Abrams Creek and Opequon Creek in Frederick County and the City of Winchester. These streams were originally listed on the 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's general aquatic life standard and the State's water quality standard for bacteria. TMDLs for bacteria were developed to address the bacterial impairments in both streams, and TMDLs for sediment were developed in Abrams Creek and Lower Opequon creek to address the general aquatic life impairments. These TMDLs were approved by EPA on February 18, 2004 and are available on DEQ's website at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/tmdl>.

§62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia requires the development of an Implementation Plan (IP) for approved TMDLs. The IP should provide measurable goals and the date of expected achievement of water quality objectives. The IP should also include the corrective actions needed and their associated costs, benefits, and environmental impacts.

Public participation is critical to the implementation planning process. DEQ and DCR will hold an initial public meeting on **Monday, June 13, 2005, 7:00 p.m.** to inform the public of the IP development and to solicit participation. The meeting will be held in the Henkel Building's Hester Auditorium, which is located on the campus of Shenandoah University at 1460 University Drive in Winchester, Virginia. Driving directions are available at http://www.su.edu/find_us.asp, and a campus map at http://www.su.edu/campus_map1.html. At the first informational meeting, interested participants will have an opportunity to join working groups of interested stakeholders that are being developed to direct the process and provide input to the Agencies.

The public comment period for this first public meeting will end on July 13, 2005. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Robert Brent, DEQ, (540) 574-7848. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments and should be sent to Robert Brent, Department of Environmental Quality, 4411 Early Road, PO Box 3000, Harrisonburg, VA 22801, telephone (540) 574-7848, fax (540) 574-7878, or e-mail rbrent@deq.virginia.gov.